

Subject: Councilmember Cedillo's E-Newsletter 2.28.14

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GREETING FROM COUNCILMEMBER GIL CEDILLO

Friends,

This was an extremely productive and successful week. We began by taking LA Mayor Eric Garcetti around Council District 1, sharing our priorities and P.E.A.C.E. agenda. Council was packed with interesting issues. We took up fracking and the living wage for hotel workers in Los Angeles. We accompanied the mother of a slain CD1 resident to offer a reward for the people responsible for his death. We continued to advocate for the health of those living alongside the Metrolink service station in Taylor Yard, and assisted with a proposed bridge concept in the same area. We ran the Firecracker Run in Chinatown and unveiled the Kenny Washington Square in honor of Lincoln Height's own, and NFL's first African American football hero.

Gilbert A. Cedillo
Councilmember, District 1

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Increasing the Living Wage for Hotel Workers



(Photo Credit: LA Times)

Councilman Cedillo considered a motion by Bonin - Martinez – Price relative to a proposed study of the citywide impacts of imposing a living wage of \$15.37 for hotel employees at hotels with more than 100 rooms. According to the Economic Development Department, 43% of the people who work in hotels in Los Angeles earn wages that still put them far below the federal poverty line. Wages paid to hotel employees are economically restrictive and prevent many hospitality employees from having purchasing power at local businesses, which has a devastating toll on Los Angeles' local economy. According to research done by the Economic Policy Institute, increasing wages for hotel workers could generate more than \$70 million in economic activity for Los Angeles.

Cedillo, along with the other members of the Economic Development Committee, instructed the CLA to secure a study and provide for public input of the citywide economic impacts of imposing a living wage of \$15.37 for hotel employees at hotels with more than 100 rooms.

Fracking Taken Up in PLUM Committee and City Council



(Photo Source: Google)

Over the last 5-6 months, we have undertaken a proactive and collaborative approach to support the public outcry and overwhelming testimony of the adverse health conditions suffered by our University Park residents, particularly our children and elderly. Together, we achieved Allenco Energy's voluntary, but temporary shut-down of their operations. Through the assistance of Supervisor Molina, the County's Department of Public Health sent their health professionals out into the neighborhood, conducted interviews and tests, and concluded that there was no doubt that the community was suffering environmental health impacts from Allenco Energy's operations. Since the December shut-down of Allenco Energy, it is not surprising that the health of our children, residents, and workers have had a significant improvement.

On Tuesday, in PLUM Committee, after substantial public testimony, including testimony from the residents of Esperanza Housing and others from University Park and Lincoln Heights, I moved both motions introduced by Councilmembers Parks, Koretz, and Bonin to:

- 1) Instruct the Department of City Planning (DCP), with the assistance of the City Attorney, to further review and develop regulatory controls over fracking in the City of Los Angeles
- 2) Request the City Attorney, with the assistance of the DCP and other relevant departments, to prepare and present an ordinance to change the zoning code to prohibit all activity associated with well stimulation, including, but not limited to, hydraulic fracturing, gravel packing, and acidizing, or any combination thereof, and the use of waste disposal injection wells in the City of Los Angeles, with such a prohibition to remain effective until measures are

met as detailed in Motion (Koretz - Bonin - et al)

3) Clarify that regulations for Motion (Koretz - Bonin - et al) concerning fracking are not to be confused with the maintenance of general underground storage facilities and the renewable energy projects that the City is pursuing.

Today, the City Council adopted the PLUM Committee's report.

FIELD UPDATE

Avenue 50 Studios Art Featured in District Office



(Photo Credit: Avenue 50 Studios)

Councilmember Cedillo's district office has been redone from floor to ceiling with paintings and illustrations provided by Avenue 50 studios. The district office will house rotating collections from Avenue 50 studios and will for the first time in March, participate in the NELA Art Walk. District staff are excited to take part in the Art Walk, and grateful to no longer be staring at blank walls.

Come pay us a visit, especially at the next Art Walk in March.

\$50K Reward Press Conference



(Photo Credit: Fredy Ceja)

Councilmember Cedillo attended a press conference on Tuesday with LAPD's Rampart Division and the victim's mother to announce a \$50K reward for those responsible for the death of her son Atilio Benavides-Amaya. On November 6, 2013, at approximately 8:15 p.m., 39 year-old Atilio was walking down the sidewalk near the northwest corner of 14th Street and Union Avenue in Los Angeles when he shot and killed. A witness in the area told Detectives that he saw two African-American males walk towards the victim. The witness then heard three gunshots and saw the two males run away from the victim towards a getaway car. Detectives are continuing to investigate this crime, and hope that the \$50K monetary reward will compel members of the public to provide more information.

Anyone with information about this case is urged to contact detectives Martinez or Lee at (213)484-3639.

Councilmember Cedillo Advocates to Stop Pollution and Noise at Metrolink's Taylor Yard Maintenance Facility



(Photo Credit: Sergio Infanzon)

Councilmember Cedillo attended a community meeting regarding the pollution and noise caused by Metrolink's Taylor Yard Central Maintenance Facility on January 25. For nearly four years, Councilmember Cedillo has worked with the communities of Cypress Park, Lincoln Heights, Elysian Valley and Glassell Park to respond to their concerns pertaining to the adverse health and noise impacts from the operations of the Metrolink's Taylor Yard Central Maintenance Facility (CMF). The ongoing concerns relating to cancer, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), asthma, aggravation of symptoms of those with diagnosed heart disease, persistent coughs, and severe allergies continue to be prominent among these neighborhoods.

Metrolink continues to neglect these concerns, and their HRA approach does not include criteria pollutants to address impacts from CMF emissions on their health from cumulative short duration exposure. Councilmember Cedillo strongly supports LAUSD announcement at the meeting that they would conduct its own HRA of Metrolink's Central Maintenance Facility to properly address these concerns.

Councilmember Cedillo, recognizing the severity of this issue, has also requested Supervisor Gloria Molina's assistance to have the Los Angeles Department of Public Health's Bureau of Toxicology and Environmental Assessment's Toxics Epidemiology Program conduct a targeted investigation of the possible health impact links with the toxic agents in the environment generated by the emissions and operations.

Councilmember Cedillo Hosts Proposed Concept Design Meeting for Taylor Yard Bridge



(Photo Credit: Sergio Infanzon)

This last Thursday, the office of Councilmember Cedillo hosted a very well attended community meeting to discuss the "Taylor Yard Bridge Proposed Concept Design". The Bureau of Engineering - Architectural Division and the Design Architect presented the proposed design for a pedestrian/bikeway bridge to connect the communities of Cypress Park and Elysian Valley. The presentation was followed by a Q&A session where the public had an opportunity to participate and make comments and suggestions. The bridge design is expected to be completed within one year.

Kenny Washington Square Dedication



(Photo Credit: Fredy Ceja)

This week I was joined by the Kenny Washington Stadium Foundation, UCLA Football Coach Jim Mora, LAPD, and the Lincoln Heights community to dedicate the intersection of Lincoln Park Ave and N. Broadway Ave as Kenny Washington Square.

For years, I have supported the efforts of the Kenny Washington Stadium Foundation that aims to preserve the legacy of Kenny Washington who was a pioneer, hero, and legend. Mr. Washington lead the Lincoln High School Tigers to 1935 City Championships in both football and baseball while garnering first team All-City selections in both sports. During his career as a U.C.L.A. Bruin, Kenny Washington distinguished himself as one of the greatest college football players of his era. After leading the nation in total offense during his senior year of 1939, Mr. Washington was named recipient of the Douglas Fairbanks Jr. Award - a predecessor to the Heisman Trophy - as the nation's top player. Liberty Magazine named Mr. Washington the nation's collegiate "Back of the Year" and the Helms Foundation presented him with their Southern California Athlete of the Year Award. He was the first U.C.L.A. Bruin to be named to the nation's All-American football team and the first player in the school's history to have his number (#13) permanently retired. In 1946 and with pressure placed upon the team to integrate by the Los Angeles African-American community, the Los Angeles Rams sought out Kenny Washington to be a member of their team due to a large degree because of his past exploits as both a local prep and collegiate star. The signing of his historic contract in March of 1946 laid the foundation for other African-American athletes to pursue a career in professional football at its highest level. Upon his retirement on December 12, 1949, Mayor Fletcher Bowron declared "Kenny Washington Day" in the City of Los Angeles.

After retirement, Kenny Washington's post athletic career included roles as an actor in Hollywood films, a respected career as an L.A.P.D. officer, celebrity product endorsements, various civic leadership positions and work as a scout for the Los Angeles Dodgers. Upon his

death in 1971 at the age of 51, newspaper obituaries from across the country wrote glowing tributes to him. In the words of contemporary sports writers, Kenny Washington was remembered as a Los Angeles sports hero, a U.C.L.A. gridiron legend and as a pioneer in the history of the National Football League.

To this day in his honor, the U.C.L.A.'s annual Offensive Player of the Year is bestowed the "Kenny Washington Award". Mr. Washington was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 1956.

To learn more about Kenny Washington, visit www.kwsfoundation.org.

Chinatown Firecracker Run



(Photo Credit: Melinda Alatorre)

Thousands were in attendance for this year's Los Angeles Chinatown Firecracker Bike and Run. The two-day festival, which marked its 36th year, is an event that Angelino's look forward to. Saturday's bike ride served as a special challenge that went through some of LA's most notable parks. Sunday's 5K and 10Ks were also well attended with over 2,500 volunteers. The event was kicked off with 100,000 firecrackers, as is the tradition for this event. We are thrilled to have such a well-executed event in the First District that engages our communities of all ages. Congratulations to the Firecracker Committee for another successful event!

Cedillo Brings Mentoring Program for Girls to CD1



(Photo Credit: Google)

Councilmember Cedillo has brought the “One Girl at a Time” Group Mentoring Program for girls 15-18 years to Lincoln High School and the LA River School. The program focuses on developing personal and life skills, values clarification, career and resource mentoring and emphasis on giving back to the community and the world.

The program is sponsored by The Women Like Us Foundation, which acknowledges the need for better prepared and educated youth within our communities. By helping to shape confident, informed young women, we help them to take a path in their lives that is both productive and healthy. We help shape leaders who will positively impact their homes, workplaces and people they meet along the way.

The program will be launched in April and will include:

- Self-discovery workshops focusing self-esteem and personal strengths.
- Career site visits
- Team building exercises
- Cultural visits
- Values Clarification
- Humanitarian and Travel opportunities

Women leaders in various professions will participate in these workshops to provide guidance and serve as role models to help make the girls in CD 1 number 1!

NEWS UPDATE

Talking CD1 Priorities with Mayor Eric Garcetti







(Photo Credit: Fredy Ceja)

On Tuesday Team Cedillo hosted Team Garcetti for a tour around CD1. This was an amazing opportunity to share what we've been able to accomplish over the past seven months and what we hope to accomplish this year. We started off the day at Magnolia Place, at the southern end of the district. Mayor Garcetti received a special tour of the multi-service center and was treated to an update from the Bureau of Sanitation on our 'Keep It Clean' campaign. To date we have picked up more than 953 tons of trash and have cleaned up 286 alleys. We then toured MacArthur Park to speak about the 'Promise Zone' initiative by President Obama, and the opportunity that lies before us to transform that region of the City and bring additional resources to the area. We highlighted two historic buildings adjacent to the Park that offer glimpses of LA's past and LA's future; the Westlake Theater and the Park Plaza Hotel. We drove through several homeless encampments and talked about our partnership with LAHSA to seek emergency services. Immediately after we were welcomed by a room full of enthusiastic seniors at the Lincoln Heights Senior Center, who took the time to create numerous banners welcoming Councilmember Cedillo and Mayor Garcetti. The next stop was the Cedillo preschool right down the street. The Councilmember helped children serve a traditional family style lunch, as they asked if they would be on the evening news because of the cameras in the room.

After a long morning Councilmember Cedillo and Mayor Garcetti broke bread at 'La Abeja' on Figueroa. The last three stops were Avenue 50 Studios, our District Office and the Old Security Pacific Bank Building right across the street. We were excited for the opportunity to showcase the many gems in our District, and wish we had a few more days to show him around the entire District. We look forward to working with the Mayor as we execute our P.E.A.C.E. agenda and make the First Council District #1!

Visiting with the United Firefighters of Los Angeles City



(Photo Credit: UFLAC)

This week Councilman Cedillo visited with our local firefighter men and women, thanking them for all that they do. I continue to advocate for additional fire resources in our communities, to ensure the fire safety of our communities and the men and women who fight these fires.

C.E.R.T Training is coming to Arroyo Seco!



(Photo Credit: Google)

The City of Los Angeles Fire Department, in collaboration with Councilmember Gil Cedillo,

Council District 1 and the Arroyo Seco Neighborhood Council, Public Safety Committee is proud to present this valuable training to the public. The City of Los Angeles Fire Department's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program was developed to provide basic training in safety and life-saving skills to the general public.

Following a major disaster, police, fire and medical professionals may not be able to fully meet the demand of helping all those in need. People will need to rely on each other to meet the immediate lifesaving and life sustaining needs, particularly if main roads are obstructed or inaccessible.

Classes begin on Thursday, March 6, 2014 at 6:30 PM to 9PM for seven classes, every Thursday until April 17, 2014 at Romona Hall, 4580 N. Figueroa Avenue, LA CA90031.

The training course will be presented as a series of SEVEN* classes and will include topics such as disaster preparedness, Terrorism awareness, light search and rescue, fire suppression and disaster medical training. The scheduled class dates are:

March 6, 2014 Thursday 6:30pm to 9:00pm
March 13, 2014 Thursday 6:30pm to 9:00pm
March 20, 2014 Thursday 6:30pm to 9:00pm
March 27, 2014 Thursday 6:30pm to 9:00pm
April 3, 2014 Thursday 6:30pm to 9:00pm
April 10, 2014 Thursday 6:30pm to 9:00pm
April 17, 2014 Thursday 6:30pm to 9:00pm

To enroll and reserve your spot or for questions, contact: Roy Payan at repayan@sbcglobal.net or Sylvia Robledo at Sylvia.robledo@lacity.org or 323-550-1538.

*Students must complete all hours of the course to receive a certificate of completion.

UPCOMING EVENTS



LA River Greenway Day of Service

Saturday, March 1st, 2014
8:00 AM - 1:30 PM
LA River High School

2050 N. San Fernando Road
Los Angeles, CA 90065



Acting Classes in Spanish

By Los Angeles Theatre Academy
Saturday, March 1st through summer
Children 10:00 AM
Teens 11:00 AM
Adults 1:00 PM
1544 N. Boylston Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213)373-LATA (5282)



Los Angeles Lantern Festival

Saturday, March 1st, 2014
12:00 PM – 10:00 PM
Chinese American Museum
425 North Los Angeles Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012



**Inaugural Walking Tour Extravaganza for the
The Living Museum:Sycamore Grove**

Saturday, March 8th, 2014

10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Sycamore Grove Park

4702 N. Figueroa

Los Angeles, CA 90042

<http://livingmuseumla.blogspot.com>



Arroyo Seco NC Candidate Meeting

Saturday, March 8th, 2014

11:00 AM – 1:30 PM

Ramona Hall Auditorium

4850 N. Figueroa Street
Los Angeles, CA 90065

Avenue 50 Studios Art Exhibit at CD1 District Office

Saturday, March 8th, 2014
7:00 PM -10:00 PM
5577 North Figueroa Street
Los Angeles, CA 90042



Feria Financiera

Domingo, 9 de Marzo
12:00 PM - 5:00 PM
USC



**Los Angeles Fire Department
Battle of the Badges Blood Drive**

Monday, March 10th, 2014

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Frank Hotchkin Memorial Training Center

1700 Stadium Way

Los Angeles, CA 90012

(213)893-9838



State Historic Park Update Meeting

Thursday, March 13th, 2014

7:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Goodwill Industries

324 N. San Fernando Road

Los Angeles, CA 90031



**Department of City Planning
Community Planning Forums**

Wednesday, March 19th, 2014
Metro Headquarters
One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[La2b.org](#)
[Recode.la](#)
[Healthyplan.la](#)



Patton Street Park & Garden Groundbreaking

Saturday, March 22nd, 2014
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
317 Patton Street
Los Angeles, CA 90026



Free Tax Preparation

El Centro Del Pueblo Family Source Center
1824 Sunset Blvd. (between Sunset & Lemoyne)
Los Angeles, CA90026
(213) 483-6335 ext. 111



Free Artmaking Workshops

Cypress Park Family Source Center

Thursday, February 6th – April 17th, 2014
3:30 PM – 4:30 PM
929 Cypress Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90065



LACC Art Exhibit

February 8th – March 1st, 2014
Avenue 50 Studio Gallery
131 North Avenue 50
Highland Park, CA 90042

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